

MINNESOTA RADIO TAPE OF MAY 28, 1963

FOR BROADCAST WEEK BEGINNING JUNE 2

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Ladies and gentlemen---

This is Senator Hubert Humphrey, reporting to you

from my office on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.---

One of the most significant proposals of the year was made in the Senate last week, in the form of a resolution relating to nuclear weapons testing.

I was pleased to join with Senator Thomas Dodd, of Connecticut, to co-sponsor this resolution. Thirty other Senators, representing both political parties, added their names as co-sponsors.

The Humphrey-Dodd Resolution can be described briefly: It calls for the United States to offer to the Soviet Union an agreement to ban

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atmospheric and underwater nuclear weapons tests. It states that if the Soviet Union does not offer formal agreement in return, the United States will discontinue the testing of nuclear weapons which contaminate the atmosphere and the oceans with radioactivity. But it stresses that the United States would be free to resume atmospheric and underwater tests at any time that the Soviet Union engaged in such tests.

The significant point of this resolution is that it does not include underground tests in the recommended ban. The reason is that underground nuclear tests are difficult to detect, and thus have provided one of the barriers to agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union on what we call "inspection stations."

Those stations are not necessary to detect atmospheric or underwater nuclear weapons tests. Such tests are readily detectible by instruments which we now possess and which are placed at strategic locations around the world.

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The Humphrey-Dodd Resolution faces reality. It's primary goal is to end the nuclear weapons testing which ^(R) increases radioactivity in the air we breathe, and to reduce the chances of accidental nuclear war and the spread of nuclear weapons to other nations. It does not conflict with the ~~comprehensive~~ ^(COMPREHENSIVE) test ban proposals the United States has offered at Geneva; indeed, it could smooth the way to acceptance of the details of those proposals by the Soviet Union.

Some of you may remember that I suggested last summer a proposal similar to the one embodied ^(D) in the new Humphrey-Dodd Resolution. At that time, the United States and Great Britain made the offer to the Soviet Union to ban testing in the atmosphere and underwater. The Soviet Union rejected the offer.

Today, there is no evidence or proof that the Soviets will look at this proposal any more favorably. But I have stressed that the United States can not sit back and act only on the basis of what we think the Soviets may or may not do. We need to set our own standards, and to act

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on the basis of those standards.

Our standard today is a constant effort to reduce the terrifying pace of the nuclear arms race. Of course, we must retain our strength and keep our nuclear capability in a constant state of readiness. But the health of mankind and the future of the world depend on our efforts to control the devastating weapons we have, before they control us.

The Humphrey-Dodd resolution has drawn together many men in the Senate who have, in the past, disagreed on this issue of nuclear testing. I am hopeful that the Administration will support it, and that it will lead to a positive step for peace.

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